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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,183	08/06/2001	Gerhard Engeser	GLA-53	9861

20311 7590 08/16/2002

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EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,183

Applicant(s)

ENGESER, GERHARD

Examiner

Rick K. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 22-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 22-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 August 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I in Paper No. 5 is acknowledged.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show reference numeral "11" in Fig. 3 as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or

REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a).
"Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)

(e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

(1) Field of the Invention.

(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).

(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

(i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).

(j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).

(k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

There are numerous phrases and clauses in the claims that are vague, indefinite, and/or awkwardly and confusingly worded, and therefore, are not fully understood. The following are examples:

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the end of the at least one wire" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 3 recites the limitation "the wire end" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-5, 7, and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seeberger (US 6,240,618) in view of Dohi (US 4,966,565).

Seeberger discloses as follows: connecting any one of a . . . f with leads to element 10; plugging the contact piece onto the connecting piece (the eyelets of a . . . f are plugged onto a speaker leads, for example); the eyelets of a . . . f are rounded to hook on the leads of the speakers, for example; Fig. 2 shows claim 7; encapsulating to a car door; and performing fully automatic manner (col. 4, lines 31-35).

Seeberger fails to disclose laser welding, pressing the contact piece onto the wire end.

Dohi discloses laser welding (Fig. 2a), pressing the contact piece onto the wire end (4a is pressed onto the wire end 6), thereby preventing the wires from coming off the leads prematurely.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seeberger by laser welding, as taught by Dohi, for the purpose of preventing the wires from coming off the leads prematurely.

8. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seeberger (US 6,240,618)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pattanaik et al (US 6,046,882).

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Seeberger/Dohi fail to disclose monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding.

Pattanaik discloses monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding (col. 3, lines 48-52 and col. 5, lines 29-36) thereby ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seeberger/Dohi by monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding, as taught by Pattanaik, for the purpose of ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

9. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seeberger (US 6,240,618)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Mattes (US 6,143,998).

Seeberger/Dohi fail to disclose simultaneously connecting two wires to the connecting pieces.

Mattes discloses simultaneously laser welding two areas by splitting the laser beams into two components (col. 2, lines 49-53) thereby decreasing production time.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seeberger/Dohi by simultaneously connecting two wires to the connecting pieces by splitting the laser beams into two components, as taught by Mattes, for the purpose of decreasing production time.

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10. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seeberger (US 6,240,618)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of H. G. Ott (US 2,962,693).

Seeberger/Dohi disclose a, b, d and f in Fig. 1C are running in parallel.

Seeberger/Dohi fail to disclose bending at least one of the contact pieces.

Ott discloses bending a contact piece (Fig. 1) thereby easily allowing the contact piece to be connected to a receiving member to provide better electrical connection.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seeberger/Dohi by bending at least one of the contact pieces, as taught by Ott, for the purpose of easily allowing the contact piece to be connected to a receiving member to provide better electrical connection.

11. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seeberger (US 6,240,618)/Dohi (US 4,966,565) as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Pattanaik et al (US 6,046,882).

Seeberger/Dohi fail to disclose monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding.

Pattanaik discloses monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to welding (col. 3, lines 48-52 and col. 5, lines 29-36) thereby ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seeberger/Dohi by monitoring the positioning the prepared wire to the piece, prior to

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welding, as taught by Pattanaik, for the purpose of ensuring the welding is performed to the proper pieces to ensure the components will perform according to the specification.

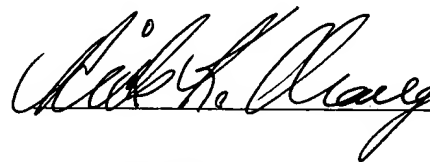
Conclusion

12. Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.



**RICHARD CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

RC
August 15, 2002